

## Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 IGA-02

IO-14 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 280700Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5104

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL DOUALA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, GB

SUBJ: UDEAC SUMMIT

REF: LIBREVILLE 1150

1. SUMMARY. MEETING OF CHIEFS OF STATE PROVIDED  
UNDRAMATIC FINISH TO ROUTINE LOWER LEVEL UDEAC DISCUSSIONS.  
PRESIDENT BONGO USED SESSIONS TO PUBLICIZE HIS DISSATIS-  
FACTION WITH UNEQUAL VOTING RIGHTS IN BANK OF CENTRAL AFRICAN  
STATES. END SUMMARY.

2. CHIEFS OF UDEAC STATES (PRESIDENTS BONGO OF GABON,  
AHIDJO OF CAMEROONS, BOKASSA OF CAR AD N'GOUABI OF CONGO)  
MET IN LIBREVILLE DECEMBER 22-23 TO CAP PREVIOUS LOWER  
LEVEL DELIBERATIONS CARRIED ON SINCE DECEMBER 11.  
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3. ADDRESSING OPENING SESSION, BO GO PAID EXPECTED HOMAGE \*O UDEAC'S PAST ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXPRESSED H\* E FOR ORGANIZA\*IONS "SECOND GREAT STAGE" WHICH WOULD SEE FURTHERING OF INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION. HE CITED CREATION OF CENTRAL BANK OF CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES AS ONE OF UDEAC'S MOST IMPORTANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BUT POINTD OUT NEED TO ADAPT BANK'S STRUCTURE TO PRESENT NEEDS. LATTER WAS ALLUSION TO CURRENT DISPARITY IN VOTING POWER AMONG MEMBERS STATES OF BANK. WE ASSUME BONGO USED CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS TO PUSH FOR REVISION OF BANK'S CHARTER T GIVE GABON VOTING PARITY WITH CAMEROON. SUMMING UP, BONGO DESCRIBED UDEAC'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN CUSTOMS FIELD AS WHOLLY FAVORABLE BUT LESS SO IN MATTER OF ECONOMIC UNION.

4. FINAL COMMUNIQUE READ TO ASSEMBLED CHIEFS OFSTATE DECEMBER 23 BY UDEAC SECGEN PIERRE TCHANQUE LISTED FOLLOWING MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SUMMIT: EQUALIZATION OF TAXES OF COMPANIES, PROVISION FOR INCREASED AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION; AGREEMENT ON 1974 UDEACBUDGET; GREATER STANDARDIZATION IN POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS. TCHANGUE (REAPPOINTED AS SECGEN FOR ADDITIONAL THREE YEARS) WAS CHARGED WITH "STUDIES" IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS: ESTABLISHING ORGANIZATION FOR FINANCING INDUSTRIAL PROJECs: SETTING UP OF AFRICAN MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES; AND REVISION OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF BRAZZAVILLE TREATY WHICH CREATED UDEAC. COMMUNIQUE ALSO NOTED BONGO'S SATISFACTION THAT CHIEFS OF STATE HAD TAKEN UP MATTER OF REVAMPING STATUTES OF CENTRAL AFRICAN BANK.

5. THOUGH BONGO'S ROLE IN CONFERENCE RECEIVED HEAVIEST PLAY IN LOCAL MEDIA, AHIDJO QUOTED AS MAKING PITCH FOR CLOSING RANKS; COMBINING POTENTIALITIES, IDEAS, EXPERIENCE TO "PROMOTE OUR DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVE OUR INDEPENDENCE." N'GOUBI REPORTEDLY TOSSED BONGO BOUQUET FOR FINDING SOLUTION TO CERTAIN (UNNAMED) "VERY DELICATE QUESTIONS."

6. COMMENT: THEREHAS BEEN A BIRTH OF COMMENTARY ON UDEAC MEETINGS FROMBOTH OUR GABONESE AND FRENCH SOURCES. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN BRIEF ASIDES FRENCH HAVE PLAYED UP ROUTINE ASPECTS OF TALKS AND ARE OBVIOUSLY ANNOYED WITH BONGO'S INJECTION OF CENTRAL AFRICAN BANK VOTING RIGHTS INTO MEETINGS. FROM ALL APPEARANCESLATEST UDEAC CONFERENCE WAS LACKLUSTER AFFAIR WHICH CONTRIBUTED LITTLE TO INCREASING STRENGTH OF ORGANIZATION. MCKESSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CENTRAL BANK, CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LIBREV01173  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LIBREVILLE  
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**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** LIBREVILLE 1150  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <28-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UDEAC SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EFIN, GB, UDEAC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005